

EXHIBIT 4: Letters of Support

STANDING COMMITTEES
OF THE SENATE
PUBLIC SAFETY, CHAIR
EDUCATION, VICE CHAIR
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, CHAIR
BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW
SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 2
SUBCOMMITTEE NO. 3
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
HIGHER EDUCATION

California State Senate

SENATOR
BRUCE McPHERSON
FIFTEENTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT
CHAIRMAN
SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY



JOINT COMMITTEES
JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE ARTS
JOINT COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP
A MASTER PLAN FOR EDUCATION
JOINT COMMITTEE ON
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE
SELECT COMMITTEES
OF THE SENATE
ANTI-TERRORISM POLICY, CHAIR
BAY AREA INFRASTRUCTURE
BAY AREA TRANSPORTATION
CALIFORNIA CORRECTIONAL SYSTEM
CALIFORNIA'S HORSE RACING INDUSTRY
CALIFORNIA'S WINE INDUSTRY
COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY
ADMISSIONS AND OUTREACH
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT
SCHOOL SAFETY
TECHNOLOGICAL CRIME
AND THE CONSUMER

April 26, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Chairman Morabito:

I am writing in support of the City of San Luis Obispo's request for \$400,000 to purchase the Ahearn Ranch property.

The Ahearn Ranch property encompasses 700 acres surrounding the Highway 101 Cuesta Grade area, which includes the headwaters of San Luis Obispo Creek. Numerous opportunities for natural resource enhancement would be afforded with the purchase of this property, from wildlife and fisheries to oak woodlands and other native vegetation. In addition, recreational open space would also be made available with the acquisition.

The Ahearn Ranch acquisition is a model of collaboration as funds have been secured from the Federal Government, the City of San Luis Obispo, and the Habitat Conservation Fund. In addition, funds are anticipated from the Nature Conservancy of California. As I have previously stated, this request would allow the permanent protection of this biologically rich land for the enjoyment of future generations.

For the above reasons, I again, support the allocation of funds for this most worthwhile acquisition. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bruce McPherson".

BRUCE McPHERSON
Senator, 15th District

BAM/rg

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APR 30 2004

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF

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STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 4081
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(916) 445-5843 • FAX: (916) 445-8081

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DISTRICT OFFICE
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Assembly California Legislature

ABEL MALDONADO
ASSEMBLY MEMBER, THIRTY-THIRD DISTRICT

COMMITTEES:
Vice-Chairman, AGRICULTURE
MEMBER:
APPROPRIATIONS
BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES, RETIREMENT
AND SOCIAL SECURITY



April 19, 2004

Paul Morabito, Chair
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612-2530

Dear Mr. Morabito:

I am writing in support of the City of San Luis Obispo's grant request for \$400,000 to support the Ahearn Property Acquisition.

The Ahearn Ranch is a scenic, rugged property located in the upper watershed of San Luis Obispo Creek, approximately three miles from the City of San Luis Obispo. The project will:

- Enhance habitat for endangered species
- Enhance water quality through silt basin construction
- Significantly restore oak woodland
- Allow for recreational trail connections between the City of San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly, and the Los Padres National Forest.

The project has already received support from the United States Forest Service, the Nature Conservancy, and the California Department of Parks and Recreation, among others. I ask that you strongly consider the request of the City of San Luis Obispo and their quest to preserve the Ahearn Ranch.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in red ink, appearing to read "Abel Maldonado".

ABEL MALDONADO
Assembly Member

AM:mb

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APR 30 2004

COASTAL CONSERVANCY
OAKLAND, CALIF.